

Right Guide

This column is designated to give official VA answers to veterans' readjustment problems. Send questions to RIGHT GUIDE, 1380 Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles 25, California.

Pension, according to its usage in federal law, is the money paid to a veteran by the government for non-service connected disabilities or disease, or the money paid to his qualified beneficiaries after his death. Pension rates for veterans' widows: World War I and II, \$42.00 per month; Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and Boxer Rebellion (must have been married to veteran prior to January 1, 1938) \$36.00 per month if under 65 years of age, \$48.00 if more than 65, and \$60.00 if veteran's wife during his war service. Additional amounts for minor children.

Compensation is the money paid by the government to a veteran for service-connected disability or disease, and to the qualified dependents of a veteran with a service-connected disability after his death.

Compensation rates for widows: World Wars I and II, Spanish-American War, Boxer Rebellion, Philippine Insurrection, \$60.00 per month. Peacetime service, \$45.00. Additional amounts for children.

Regulations regarding pensions and compensation for beneficiaries which apply in all cases:

1. Widows and children are not required to prove dependency to obtain compensation or pensions. Parents are required to submit such proof.

2. No remarried widow is entitled to pension or compensation regardless of the cause of the veteran's death. Subsequent marriages cancel all pension or compensation entitlements except in the case of the widow of a Spanish-American War veteran.

3. Widows must affirm constant cohabitation with husband-veteran in order to obtain either compensation or pension. Amicable separations or separations due to the willful misconduct of the husband are the only exceptions.

4. Divorced wife of veteran, regardless of the circumstances of the divorce, is not entitled to pension or compensation.

5. Minor children of a veteran, if otherwise eligible, are not affected in their compensation or pension entitlement because of the divorce of their parents or the remarriage of mother.

6. Pensions (not compensation) are subject to income limitations based on the anticipated calendar year income of each eligible beneficiary. Income in excess of legal limitations one year do not prohibit entitlement the next.

7. Income of widow has no bearing on pension entitlements of children. Income limitations are applied to each beneficiary individually.

8. Possession of real estate does not necessarily prohibit beneficiaries from receiving pension. Government life insurance is not considered in estimating incomes.

9. Dependent parents of veterans who died from a service-connected disability or disease are entitled to apply for compensation.

Common law marriage may be accepted as basis for pension or compensation if this marriage status is in one of the states in the United States which accepted it as legal.



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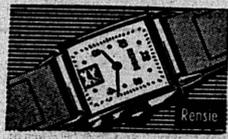
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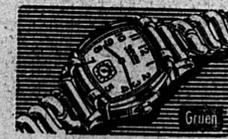
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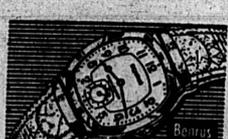
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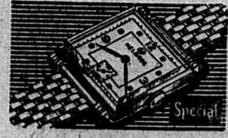
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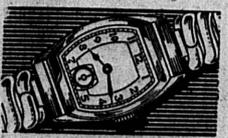
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